

**GOV. AARON VENABLE BROWN
(1795-1859)
PAPERS
1845-1847**

GP 14

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INTRODUCTION

This finding aid covers the gubernatorial papers of Tennessee Governor Aaron V. Brown, who served from 1845-1847. It consists of one box, in ten folders, of materials that consist of correspondence, petitions for pardons, and miscellaneous materials.

There are no restrictions on the use of the materials and researchers may make copies of individual items for individual or scholarly use.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

- 1795 August 15. Born in Brunswick County, Virginia, the son of Rev. Aaron Brown, a Methodist minister, and his second wife, Elizabeth Melton.
- 1812-1814 Student at the University of North Carolina. Graduated as valedictorian in his class.
- 1815 Moved to Giles County, Tennessee, then to Nashville. Studied law under the distinguished jurist, Judge Trimble of Nashville. After being admitted to the bar in 1816, he and James K. Polk established a law partnership which they maintained until Polk's career led him out of the State.
- 1821-1827 Elected and served in the Tennessee State Senate.
- 1831-1839 Elected and served in the Tennessee State Legislature, lower house, representing Giles County, Tennessee.
- 1839 Elected to the Congress of the United States (Democrat), defeating E. J. Shields, a prominent Whig.
- 1845 Elected the eleventh Governor of Tennessee. Married Mrs. Cynthia (Pillow) Saunders, his second wife. His first wife was Sarah Burruss of Giles County.
- 1847 Defeated for re-election as Governor by Neill S. Brown.
- 1850 Member, Southern Convention in Nashville, Tennessee.
- 1856 Delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Baltimore, Md.
- 1857 Appointed and served as Postmaster General of the United States in the Buchanan Administration.
- 1859 Died on March 8, 1859 in Washington, D.C. Buried in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Nashville.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Correspondence, Gov. Brown. 1846-1847.
2. Correspondence (General). Fitzpatrick - Smith, 1845.
3. Correspondence (General). Alexander - Wool, 1846.
4. Correspondence (General). Bonner - Thornton, 1846.
5. Correspondence (Miscellaneous). Brown - Whitfield.
6. Miscellaneous Material, 1846-1847.
7. Petitions for Pardons, 1845. Bal - Phi
8. Petitions for Pardons, 1846. All - Web
9. Petitions for Pardons, 1846. Ale - War
10. Petitions for Pardons, 1847. Fle - Tay

NAME INDEX

This index contains names of persons holding influential positions during the period. In some instances, however, correspondence is included because the content is important enough to warrant attention in the index. The figures in the parentheses immediately following each name denote the total number of letters in the folder from that person. The identification of the writer and the site from where the letters were written are included whenever possible.

Box 1, Folder 2, 1845

Ben Fitzpatrick, (1) Governor of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

Box 1, Folder 3, 1846

John E. Wool, (1) Brigadier General, Mexican War. Louisville, Kentucky.

Box 1, Folder 4, 1847

Robert S. Caruthers, (1) U.S. Congressman. Carthage, Tennessee.